

all that appears to be necessary to a general
attack is the rallying and marshaling their
forces

now it is the general impression that should
you be present with us it would allay much of
the excitement and take away an excuse that is
in the mouths of all that they wish for more acquai-
tance with you even your friends begin to think
you are not doing right and for the good of
this people I earnestly wish you to be with us
as soon as possible a petition for a parish meeting
has been rejected by the prudential committee and
withdrawn we think it not prudent to push matters
to extremities but think your presence might prove
the way for a reconciliation

Mr Bledget who preached with us yesterday after
the prayer meeting this evening walked home with
me and from learning the state of feeling here
thinks it indispensable that you should be
here as soon as possible

now I hope you will not consider this an
traversion but will receive it as from one who feels
your situation as well as the situation of the people
in Hopkinton I write not only on my own behalf but
those of many of the brethren of our church

but my time is expiring and I must close
with subscribing myself your affectionate friend

Elijah Smith

Dear Fitch

Hopkinton July 19

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Hopkinton July 19th 1830

Dear Sir

when you left us you mentioned a desire to know what might be the movements I have left it to Mr Chamberlain to give you the general movements of the parish and expect he has done it so far as he has been furnished with facts

I have now thought it my duty to give you some account of the movements in the Sabbath school the entire school is attended with considerable interest the Eastern school has been attacked and nearly destroyed last Sabbath I was importuned to go to the upper part as that school was going to decay but the necessity of the case seemed to require my presence at the lower part of the town and accordingly went the enemy had mostly retired and it was found necessary to reorganize the school on a little different plan from what it was at first it is now under the care of Mr Ordway a pious well informed man who has been a superintendent in Salem one who is judicious prudent & in whose we may confide the mutual classes are now a bible class to meet with the teachers one hour some times the Sabbath the reason of this change is the influence of Unitarianism (leading to alteration) but I must not tell all, my time & paper will not permit

you will see by this statement that the out works are attacked if they can be maintained by the vigilance and perseverance of the friends of Sabbath schools in this place we shall be glad but I have my fears for the main citadel and am in daily expectation of effort against that but I shall endeavour to be on my guard as much as possible